

for decades now and whose knowledge and expertise on these matters is recognized by everyone here and pretty much everyone everywhere else. Thank you, as well, to the rest of my committee tax staff: Jennifer Acuna, Tony Coughlan, Christopher Hanna, Alex Monie, Eric Oman, Marty Pippins, Preston Rutledge, and Nick Wyatt.

I need to thank my staff director, Jay Khosla, who quarterbacked the staff through this whole ordeal and who has spent many years with me as we have laid the groundwork and started construction on this undertaking. I want to thank the other members of my senior team as well, including Matt Hoffman, Jeff Wrase, Julia Lawless, Jennifer Kuskowski, Chris Armstrong, and Bryan Hickman. I need to thank the communications staff on the committee: Katie Niederee, Nicole Hager, and Joshua Blume.

I also need to thank a couple of former staff members. Chris Campbell, my former staff director, worked for years on this effort, and while, he is now at Treasury, I am sure he is celebrating on his own today. I would also like to give a thank you to Jim Lyons, my tax counsel who, unfortunately, passed away a little over a year ago. He contributed greatly to this effort for a number of years, and his steady presence has definitely been missed.

Beyond my own staff, I want to thank the tax legislative assistants from each of the committee members who helped to craft this bill, namely, Chris Allen, Sam Beaver, Joseph Boddicker, Chris Conlin, Shay Hawkins, Randy Herndon, Bart Massey, Monica McGuire, Mike Quickel, Zacshary Rudisill, Andrew Siracuse, Robert Sneed, Derek Theurer, and Mark Warren, all of whom did an outstanding job in helping us to produce this bill.

I also want to thank the committee's legislative directors: Charles Cogar, Ken Flanz, Chris Gillott, Brad Grantz, Amber Kirchhoefer, Kurt Kovarik, Jessica McBride, Sarah Paul, Landon Stropko, Jay Sulzmann, Stephen Tausend, Pam Thiessen, and Christopher Toppings.

I also need to thank the staff from the leader's office, including Brendan Dunn, Antonia Ferrier, Hazen Marshall, Erica Soares, Terry Van Doren, Don Stewart, and Jane Lee.

This process has been a joint effort with our friends on the Budget Committee, and I need to thank Senator ENZI, once again, for his leadership on that committee to give us the reconciliation instruction that made this possible. Additionally, I would like to thank members of his staff, including: Joe Brenckle, Jim Neill, Betsy McDonnell, Matt Giroux, Paul Vinovich, Becky Cole, Eric Ueland, Thomas Fueller, and the rest of the Budget Committee team.

Other bodies deserve our thanks as well. Tom Barthold and his team at the Joint Committee on Taxation made themselves available at all hours to

help us get the bill written and ready to pass. As did the staff at the legislative counsel's office, led by Mark McGunagle and Jim Fransen and their whole team and those who work with Elizabeth McDounagh in the Parliamentarian's office.

There are too many people to thank in a single floor speech, but, I am very grateful for the countless individuals who have in this endeavor over the years. We are not there yet, but we are getting closer.

I look forward to moving this effort through the next steps and to working with my colleagues on other challenges that lie ahead.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Executive Calendar Nos. 510 through 522 and all nominations placed on the Secretary's desk; that the nominations be confirmed; the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

#### IN THE ARMY

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Army under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

#### *To be brigadier general*

Col. Douglas F. Stitt

#### IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

#### *To be rear admiral (lower half)*

Capt. Michael E. Boyle

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

#### *To be vice admiral*

Rear Adm. Lisa M. Franchetti

#### IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

#### *To be major general*

Brig. Gen. Arthur E. Jackman, Jr.

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

#### *To be major general*

Brig. Gen. Josef F. Schmid, III

The following named officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the

grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

#### *To be brigadier general*

Col. John M. Breazeale  
Col. Damon S. Feltman  
Col. Anne B. Gunter  
Col. Scheid P. Hodges  
Col. Richard L. Kemble  
Col. Tanya R. Kubinec  
Col. Erich C. Novak  
Col. Jeffrey T. Pennington  
Col. John N. Tree  
Col. Aaron G. Vangelisti  
Col. William W. Whittenberger, Jr.  
Col. Christopher F. Yancy

The following named Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

#### *To be brigadier general*

Col. Darlow G. Botha, Jr.

The following named Air National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

#### *To be brigadier general*

Col. Steven J. deMilliano  
Col. Christopher E. Finerty

The following named Air National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

#### *To be brigadier general*

Col. Michele K. LaMontagne  
Col. Michael J. Regan, Jr.

The following named Air National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

#### *To be brigadier general*

Col. Travis K. Acheson  
Col. Barry A. Blanchard  
Col. Michael A. Borkowski  
Col. Michael T. Butler  
Col. Michael A. Cooper  
Col. Monique J. DeSpain  
Col. Matthew D. Dinmore  
Col. Teresa S. Edwards  
Col. Emmanuel I. Haldopoulos  
Col. Charles G. Jeffries  
Col. Gregory W. Lair  
Col. Jeffrey W. Magram  
Col. James C. McEachen  
Col. Maurice M. McKinney  
Col. Suellen Overton  
Col. Gregg A. Perez  
Col. Mark D. Piper  
Col. James P. Rowlett  
Col. Michael D. Sproul  
Col. Christan L. Stewart  
Col. David W. Walter  
Col. Terry L. Williams  
Col. Shanna M. Woyak  
Col. Frank Y. Yang  
Col. Jeffrey D. Young

The following named Air National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

#### *To be major general*

Brig. Gen. Ondra L. Berry  
Brig. Gen. Samuel W. Black  
Brig. Gen. William D. Bunch  
Brig. Gen. Joseph S. Chisolm  
Brig. Gen. Thomas B. Cucchi  
Brig. Gen. Gary L. Ebben  
Brig. Gen. Jerry L. Fenwick  
Brig. Gen. Dawn M. Ferrel

Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Kennett  
 Brig. Gen. Eric W. Mann  
 Brig. Gen. Edward A. Sauley, III  
 Brig. Gen. Dean A. Tremps

The following named Air National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

*To be major general*

Brig. Gen. George M. Degnon  
 Brig. Gen. Tamhara L. Hutchins-Frye  
 Brig. Gen. Sherrie L. McCandless  
 Brig. Gen. Steven Nordhaus  
 Brig. Gen. Kirk S. Pierce  
 Brig. Gen. Frank H. Stokes  
 Brig. Gen. Bradley A. Swanson  
 Brig. Gen. Thomas K. Wark

The following named Air National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

*To be major general*

Brig. Gen. Douglas A. Farnham  
 Brig. Gen. Clay L. Garrison

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S  
 DESK

IN THE AIR FORCE

PN951 AIR FORCE nominations (14) beginning DANE V. CAMPBELL, and ending RICHARD L. WOODRUFF, JR., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 5, 2017.

PN1234 AIR FORCE nominations (69) beginning JOSEPH BENJAMIN AHLERS, and ending TRENTON M. WHITE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 14, 2017.

PN1236 AIR FORCE nomination of Erika R. Woodson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 14, 2017.

PN1237 AIR FORCE nomination of Michael S. Stroud, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 14, 2017.

PN1238 AIR FORCE nominations (17) beginning LANCE A. AIUMOPAS, and ending TARA L. VILLENA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 14, 2017.

PN1239 AIR FORCE nomination of Robert Sarlay, Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 14, 2017.

PN1253 AIR FORCE nominations (88) beginning RICHARD G. ADAMS, and ending JOSEPH F. ZINGARO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 16, 2017.

IN THE ARMY

PN956 ARMY nomination of Ashley R. Sellers, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 5, 2017.

PN958 ARMY nomination of Elias M. Chelala, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 5, 2017.

PN1144 ARMY nomination of Cathleen A. Labate, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 16, 2017.

PN1147 ARMY nominations (2) beginning REBECCA J. COOPER, and ending MATTHEW L. DANIELS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 16, 2017.

PN1240 ARMY nomination of Brantley J. Combs, which was received by the Senate

and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 14, 2017.

PN1241 ARMY nominations (2) beginning MARK E. QUERY, and ending SAMUEL H. TAHK, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 14, 2017.

PN1242 ARMY nomination of Victor A. Pachecofowler, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 14, 2017.

PN1243 ARMY nomination of James M. Brumit, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 14, 2017.

PN1254 ARMY nomination of Melvin J. Nickell, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 16, 2017.

PN1255 ARMY nomination of Erica L. Herzog, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 16, 2017.

PN1256 ARMY nomination of Adam W. Vanek, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 16, 2017.

PN1257 ARMY nomination of Jason Park, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 16, 2017.

PN1258 ARMY nomination of John T. Huckabay, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 16, 2017.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO DEE BRADEN

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate Ms. Dee Braden on her retirement from the Coles County Council on Aging, CCCoA, after more than 41 years of service.

One of Illinois' finest advocates for older residents, Dee started with CCCoA in 1976, as the RSVP volunteer recruiter and was quickly promoted to be its first executive director in 1978.

Under Dee's leadership, CCCoA flourished and received the 2008 Governor's Award for Unique Achievement for its vision, innovation, and collaborative public and private partnerships in Illinois.

To understand Dee's tireless commitment to Illinois' older population, one need only look at her long service record. Dee developed and orchestrated the first successful passage of a county-wide property tax referendum in Illinois to fund senior services and advocated for decades to enhance the quality of life of older adults in Coles Coun-

ty. For 10 years, she also fundraised for the LifeSpan Center, a 25,000-square-foot multipurpose intergenerational facility in Mattoon, IL. Dee devoted herself to bettering the quality of life for our older Illinoisans.

Dee's many years of leadership and contributions to the elderly made her the deserving recipient of several awards, including the Coles County Zonta Woman of the Year Award for Community Service, the Epsilon Sigma Alpha Diana Award for her service, and the Illinois Governor's Award for Unique Achievement after she developed a countywide Elder Abuse Task Force. This year, the East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging awarded Dee the Dr. Arthur H. Larsen Leadership Award for her outstanding leadership in advancing programs, services, and opportunities for older persons in east central Illinois.

These are just a few of Dee's many accomplishments. A full rendering of her achievements would take much longer than these few moments. I will end by saying that I visited the CCCoA several times, and I can tell you firsthand that the work Dee has done in the community is nothing short of remarkable.

Dee's generous heart is as big as Illinois. I don't know a better volunteer who has given so much to helping people. I wish Dee a happy, relaxing retirement and the best of luck in her life's next chapter. She has certainly earned it.

BUDGETARY REVISIONS

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, section 3003 of H. Con. Res. 71, the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018, allows the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee to revise the allocations, aggregates, and levels in the budget resolution for legislation considered under the resolution's reconciliation instructions.

I find that S. Amdt. 1855 fulfills the conditions found in section 3003 of H. Con. Res. 71. Accordingly, I am revising the allocations to the Committee on Finance, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, and other enforceable budgetary levels to account for the budgetary effects of the amendment.

This adjustment supersedes the adjustment I previously made for the processing of S. Amdt. 1618 on November 29, 2017. This adjustment applies while this amendment is under consideration. Should the amendment be withdrawn or fail, this adjustment will be null and void and the adjustment for S. Amdt. 1618 shall remain active.

I ask unanimous consent that the accompanying tables, which provide details about the adjustment, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows: